

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

OFFICIAL

In re Application of: Michael Austin
Application No.: 09/966686
Filed: October 1, 2001
For: A Method and Apparatus for Contracting, Loading
or Crimping Self-Expanding and Balloon
Expandable Stent Devices

Examiner: Marc Jimenez
Group Art Unit: 3726

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: S63.2N-7405-US02

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action dated April 22, 2004 and pursuant to the Advisory Action dated July 14, 2004.

If an extension of time is required to make this response timely and no separate petition is enclosed, Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time sufficient to make the response timely. In the event that this response requires the payment of government fees and payment is not enclosed, please charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

Please amend the application as follows: